

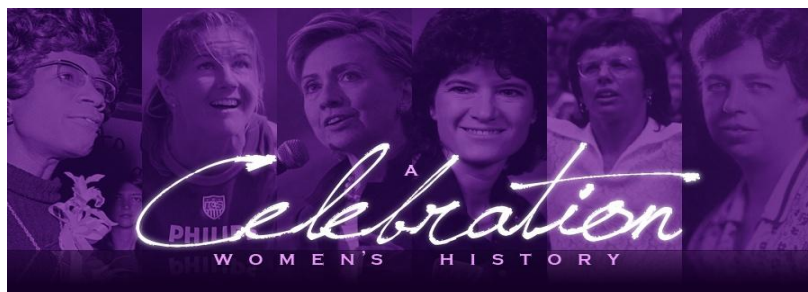


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U.S. POLICY & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

09514

AFRICA: U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ISSUES

By Ted Dagne, Congressional Research Service, November 24, 2009, 13 pages.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL33591.pdf>

U.S. aid to Africa reached a peak in 1985, when global competition with the Soviet Union was at a high point. After the Cold War ended, security assistance levels for Africa began to decline. In 1995, at the outset of the 104th Congress, substantial reductions in aid to Africa had been anticipated, as many questioned the importance of Africa to U.S. national security interests in the post-Cold War era. As the debate went forward, however, congressional reports and bills emphasized U.S. humanitarian, economic, and other interests in Africa. Aid levels did fall, but gradually began to increase again in FY1997. U.S. assistance to Africa is reaching new highs due to a significant increase in health care sectors under the Global Health and Child Survival (GHCS) program. The United States is the leading donor of humanitarian assistance to Africa. In FY2009, the United States provided an estimated \$1 billion in humanitarian aid to Sudan.

U.S. assistance reaches Africa through a variety of channels, including USAID-administered Development Assistance (DA) and GHCS programs, food aid programs, and refugee assistance. The U.S. African Development Foundation (ADF) makes small grants to cooperatives, youth groups, and self-help organizations and operates in 20 countries. The World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) is the principal multilateral channel for U.S. aid, but the United States also contributes to the African Development Bank and Fund and to United Nations activities in Africa.

09515

AL QAEDA AND AFFILIATES: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, GLOBAL PRESENCE, AND IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

By John Rollins, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, February 5, 2010, 32 pages.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R41070_20100205.pdf

Al Qaeda (AQ) has evolved into a significantly different terrorist organization than the one that perpetrated the September 11, 2001, attacks. At the time, Al Qaeda was composed mostly of a core cadre of veterans of the Afghan insurgency against the Soviets, with a centralized leadership structure, made up mostly of Egyptians. The focus of the report is on the history of Al Qaeda, actions and capabilities of the organization and non-aligned entities, and an analysis of select regional Al Qaeda affiliates.

09516

AL-QAEDA'S FINANCIAL PRESSURES

By Greg Bruno Council on Foreign Relations, February 1, 2010.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21347/alqaedas_financial_pressures.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder

Financial pressures have weakened al-Qaeda's tactical abilities, but analysts say affiliated networks are finding new ways to raise and spend money, complicating efforts to squeeze a savvy foe.

09517

AL QAEDA IN YEMEN AND SOMALIA: A TICKING TIME BOMB

Report by the majority staff of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, January 20, 2010, 21 pages.

<http://foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Al%20Qaeda%20in%20Yemen%20and%20Somalia.pdf>

Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the offshoot of Osama bin Laden's terrorist network operating in Yemen and Saudi Arabia, has evolved into an ambitious organization capable of using non-traditional recruits to launch attacks against American targets within the Middle East and beyond. Evidence of its potential became front-page news after a young Nigerian trained at one of its camps in Yemen tried to blow up a passenger aircraft bound for Detroit on Christmas Day.

For American counter-terrorism experts in the region, the Christmas Day plot was a nearly catastrophic illustration of a significant new threat from a network previously regarded as a regional danger, rather than an international one. The concern now is that the group has grown more dangerous by taking advantage of the weakened central government in Yemen, which is struggling with civil conflicts and declining natural resources. These experts have said they are worried that training camps established in remote parts of Yemen by Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) are being run by former detainees and veteran fighters from Afghanistan and Iraq and used to instruct U.S. citizens who have immigrated to Yemen to marry local women or after converting to Islam in American prisons.

09518

A THOUSAND POINTS OF HATE

By Christopher Dickey, Newsweek, January 11, 2010.

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/229078>

The surge in efforts to attack the U.S. over the last few months -- including the recent incident involving Detroit-bound Northwest Flight 253 -- is a measure of U.S. success at combating terrorism, Dickey says. But although this has put organized extremist groups under mounting pressure, it has also encouraged more individual amateurs, like the 23-year-old Nigerian involved in the Detroit incident.

Moreover, al-Qaeda affiliates in Somalia and Yemen have started attracting and cultivating would-be jihadis from the U.S. itself. The media attention for even failed terrorist attempts is a boon to recruitment for any aspiring extremist group. Dickey advises the Obama administration to stay the course in maintaining an aggressive but low-profile defense while discrediting al-Qaeda's ideology. Obama "needs to keep the focus on the small groups and individuals who present a real threat while engaging in the battle of ideas from the high ground of traditional American values," Dickey says. Dickey adds: "No allies in the Muslim world want to be seen working with the United States to kill other Muslims. Obama must not let the United States get dragged into another overt war, and must continue extricating American troops from the occupations he inherited."

09519

BAHRAIN: REFORM, SECURITY, AND U.S. POLICY

By Kenneth Katzman, Congressional Research Service, updated December 18, 2009, 13 pages.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/95-1013_20091218.pdf

After instability during the late 1990s, Bahrain undertook substantial political reforms, but the Shiite majority continues to simmer over the Sunni-led government's perceived manipulation of citizenship and election laws and regulations to maintain its grip on power. In late 2008, the power struggle manifested as large demonstrations and some arrests of Shiite opposition leaders. Smaller but frequent incidents of violence continued subsequently. These tensions are likely to increase in the run up to the next parliamentary elections, planned for November 2010.

09520

CONTESTED COMMONS: THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN POWER IN A MULTIPOLAR WORLD

By Abraham M. Denmark et al. Center for New American Security, January 2010, 200 pages.

http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/CNAS%20Contested%20Commons_1.pdf

This is an edited volume featuring five chapters and a capstone piece on the future of American power in the sea, air, space and cyberspace. Authors include CNAS Fellow Abraham M. Denmark, Dr. James Mulvenon, Frank Hoffman, CNAS Military Fellow Lt Col Kelly Martin (USAF), Oliver Fritz, Eric Sterner, Dr. Greg Rattray, Chris Evans, Jason Healey, and CNAS Senior Fellow Robert D. Kaplan.

The United States has been the primary guarantor of the global commons since the end of World War II. The U.S. Navy and Coast Guard have dissuaded naval aggression and fought piracy around the world, ensuring unprecedented freedom of the seas. The United States led the creation of international agreements on air transportation, enabling the creation of a global air industry. America also forged an international consensus on the openness of space, ensuring all countries with the means to do so can utilize orbital space for scientific, commercial and military purposes. Lastly, research funded by the U.S. government led to the creation of a decentralized network of connections now called the Internet, which connects physically dispersed markets, capital and people.

The United States derives great benefit from open access to these global commons, but so too does the world at large. Indeed, dependable access to the commons is the backbone of the international economy and political order, benefiting the global community in ways that few appreciate or realize. Today, over 90 percent of global trade, worth over 14 trillion dollars in 2008, travels by sea. Civil air transportation carries 2.2 billion passengers annually and 35 percent of all international trade, by value. Governments, militaries and corporations around the world rely on space for communications, imagery, and accurate positioning services, making space a 257 billion dollars industry in 2008. ³ Financial traders in New York City use the Internet to transfer 4 trillion dollars, greater than 25 percent of America's annual GDP, every day.

09521

DESIGNATIONS OF AL-QA'IDA IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA (AQAP) AND SENIOR LEADERS

Statement by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Philip J. Crowley, January 19, 2010

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2010/01/135364.htm>

The Secretary of State has designated al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) under Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended (INA). The Secretary also designated AQAP and its two top leaders Nasir al-Wahishi and Said al-Shihri under E.O. 13224. Secretary Clinton took these actions in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury. These actions prohibit provision of material support and arms to AQAP and also include immigration related restrictions that will help stem the flow of finances to AQAP and give the Department of Justice the tools it needs to prosecute AQAP members.

09522

THE IMPACT OF U.S. MILITARY DRAWDOWN IN IRAQ ON DISPLACED AND OTHER VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

By Olga Oliker et al, RAND Corporation. January 13, 2010.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2010/RAND_OP272.pdf

As the U.S. continues to draw down its forces and prepares to eventually end its substantial military involvement in Iraq, it must recognize that this drawdown will affect vulnerable and at-risk populations, some of whom have depended on U.S. forces for their security over the last six years. How vulnerable groups are affected by the U.S. drawdown has significant implications for the evolution of Iraq and U.S. policy interests in Iraq and the Middle East more broadly. The authors assess the risks and implications of drawdown and withdrawal for some of the Iraqis in greatest danger.

09523

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC AT 31: POST-ELECTION ABUSES SHOW SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS CRISIS

By Human Rights Watch. February 11, 2010, 22 pages.

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/iran0210web.pdf>

The report contends that the post-election abuses show serious human rights crisis.

This report brings together testimonies and information reflecting the continuing human rights crisis since the election and its sharply disputed results. Over the course of 5 months, Human Rights Watch conducted interviews with over two dozen individuals, including ordinary protestors, journalists, political figure and their families, and human rights defenders. The report's findings indicate a widespread governmental crackdown across various sectors of Iranian society. Although the government has acknowledged some abuses and even named responsible individuals, no one has been prosecuted for committing major human rights violations.

09524

AN ISRAELI PREVENTIVE ATTACK ON IRAN'S NUCLEAR SITES: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE U.S.

By James Phillips, Heritage Foundation, January 15, 2010, 10 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2361.pdf

Heritage Foundation Middle East expert James Phillips maps out the likely results of an Israeli attack, outlines Iran's probable reaction, and explains why it is now crucial that the Obama Administration take action to mitigate and defend against Iran's response to an Israeli strike.

09525

IS THE WORLD OUR CAMPUS? INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND U.S. GLOBAL POWER IN THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY

By Paul A. Kramer, Diplomatic History, vol. 33, no. 5, November 2009, pp. 775-806.

Kramer, Associate Professor of History at Vanderbilt University, builds on the movement to broaden the history of U.S. foreign relations beyond just official relations between governments, drawing attention to international students as foreign-relations actors. By implication, classrooms, campuses and college towns all function as international-relations nodes. He writes that there is much to be gained from approaching the topic through the lens of U.S. global power. From pre-Fulbright days, there has been a tendency on the part of American educators and officials to view study-in-the-U.S. programs, including military training courses, as a means of enhancing the nation's position in the world.

The author explores whether we should regard education only in terms of national interests or also in terms of potentially transnational group interests -- do we miss something if we focus on U.S. global power rather than the creation of a global elite? He suggests framing the issue of international education in terms of world history, class formation, capitalism, democracy, or globalization instead of in terms of history of U.S. foreign relations.

09526

KUWAIT: SECURITY, REFORM, AND U.S. POLICY

By Kenneth Katzman, Congressional Research Service updated December 9, 2009, 14 pages.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RS21513_20091209.pdf

Kuwait, which has been pivotal to nearly two decades of U.S. involvement in Iraq, has been mired for the past three years in internal wrangling between the elected National Assembly and the ruling Al Sabah family primarily over the political dominance of the Al Sabah. In March 2009, this infighting led to the second constitutional dissolution of the National Assembly in the past year, setting up new parliamentary elections on May 16, 2009. Among other effects, the political stalemate has delayed or caused cancellation of key energy projects, including some projects involving major foreign energy firms, as well as of measures to help Kuwait deal with the effects of the global financial and economic crisis. The elections produced many new deputies in the 50-seat Assembly, including four women, the first to be elected to the Assembly in Kuwait since women were given the vote in 2005. However, the elections did not resolve the government-Assembly political disputes or produce meaningful progress on major issues, and there is the potential for yet another dissolution of the Assembly and new elections. On regional policy, the political stalemate in Kuwait has caused Kuwaiti leaders to generally defer to Saudi Arabia and other more active Gulf states. Kuwait has not attempted to take a leadership role in mediating disputes within the Palestinian territories or to try to determine Iran's role in Gulf security and political arrangements. It has built ties to a range of Iraqi leaders and contributed to the rebuilding of post-Saddam Iraq, but the two countries differ over whether and how to close out the Saddam-era U.N.-administered reparations process.

09527

MAKING PALESTINIAN "MARTYRDOM OPERATIONS"/"SUICIDE ATTACKS": INTERVIEWS WITH WOULD-BE PERPETRATORS AND ORGANIZERS

By Ariel Merari, Terrorism and Political Violence, vol. 22, no. 1, January 2010, pp. 102-119.

http://pdfserve.informaworld.com/563438_731211589_917955947.pdf

Suicide attacks have become the most common and effective tactic of present-day terrorism. The authors conducted a series of interviews with would-be attackers and their organizers and learned some of the motivations of the suicide bombers and the factors that influenced their decisions. Of the 2,937 suicide bombers across the world during the period of 1981-2008, only a few acted alone. The vast majority were sent by organized terrorist groups, meaning that individual initiative is extremely rare.

The decision to carry out a suicide attack was practically always made at the organization's local level as they chose with little input from central leadership. Some suicide bombers volunteered on their own initiative, but most were solicited by a recruiter. Consent to undertake an attack was usually delayed by days or even weeks despite the willingness of the volunteers. Many of the volunteers had little loyalty to the organization that recruited them. The researchers said that most organizers insisted that the volunteers offered themselves on their own initiative and that the organization did not seek candidates for suicide attacks. The researchers also found that most organizers would not willingly carry out suicide attacks themselves. And they found that organizers sought out recruits based on operational considerations, though social awareness also was considered.

09528

MIXED VIEWS OF HAMAS AND HEZBOLLAH IN LARGELY MUSLIM NATIONS: LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR MANY MUSLIM LEADERS

By Pew Global Attitudes Project, February 4, 2010, 42 pages.

<http://pewglobal.org/reports/pdf/268.pdf>

Across predominantly Muslim nations, there is little enthusiasm for the extremist Islamic organizations Hamas and Hezbollah, although there are pockets of support for both groups, especially in the Middle East. Four years after its victory in Palestinian parliamentary elections, Hamas receives relatively positive ratings in Jordan (56% favorable) and Egypt (52%). However, Palestinians are more likely to give the group a negative (52%) than a positive (44%) rating. And reservations about Hamas are particularly common in the portion of the Palestinian territories it controls -- just 37% in Gaza express a favorable opinion, compared with 47% in the West Bank.

09529

NEGOTIATIONS AND RECONCILIATION WITH THE TALIBAN: THE KEY POLICY ISSUES AND DILEMMAS

By Vanda Felbab-Brown, Brookings Institution, January 28, 2010, 6 pages.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/articles/2010/0128_taliban_felbabbrown/0128_taliban_felbabbrown.pdf

Thursday's London conference on Afghanistan where the Afghan government, Britain, and Japan have presented their plans for reconciliation with the Taliban has reignited a months-long debate about whether or not to negotiate with the salafi insurgents. But although passions run strong on both sides of the debate, in its abstract form, negotiate: yes or no, the discussion is of little policy usefulness, according to the report. The real question about negotiating with the Taliban is what shape and content any such negotiation and reconciliation should have and what are the costs and benefits of such an approach.

09530

NEGOTIATING SUDAN'S POST-REFERENDUM ARRANGEMENTS

By Jon Temin, U.S. Institute of Peace, January 2010, 4 pages.

<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%206%20Negotiating%20Sudan's%20Post-Referendum%20Arrangement.pdf>

With less than a year from Sudan's key referendum on whether the South should secede, the author considers how the international community can best manage the post-referendum process.

09531

OBAMA IMAGE UNSCATHED BY TERRORISM CONTROVERSY

By Andrew Kohut, Pew Research Center for the People & Press, January 14, 2010, 51 pages.

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/578.pdf>

In the aftermath of the failed Christmas Day terrorist attack on a Detroit-bound airliner, the government's ratings for reducing the threat of terrorism have slipped. In addition, 33% now say that the ability of terrorists to launch a major attack on the U.S. is greater than it was at the time of 9/11; that is up only slightly from November but is the highest percentage expressing this view in surveys dating to 2002. The public also has become far more concerned that government anti-terrorism policies fail to protect the country adequately – and far less concerned that these policies restrict civil liberties.

09532

PREVENTION OF WMD PROLIFERATION AND TERRORISM REPORT CARD

By Bob Graham and Jim Talent, Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism, January 26, 2010, 24 pages.

<http://www.preventwmd.gov/static/docs/report-card.pdf>

The report card indicating that the U.S. government is not taking the necessary steps to protect the country from the threats posed by WMD and terrorism. Of 17 grades, the report card includes three failing “F” grades on rapid and effective response to bioterrorism; Congressional oversight of homeland security and intelligence; and national security workforce recruitment. Fortunately, all three grades could be substantially improved by committed leadership in Congress and the Administration.

09533

RUSSIA'S IRAN POLICY: A CURVEBALL FOR OBAMA

By Ariel Cohen, Ph.D., Heritage Foundation, January 15, 2010, 10 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2359.pdf

Russia considers Iran a partner and de facto ally in its plans to reshape the power balance in the Middle East and dilute U.S. influence in the region...the U.S. needs to develop a broader policy that convincingly argues that Iran will lose--even if it obtains nuclear weapons and that clearly demonstrates to the Russians that the risks of betting on Iran outweigh the potential rewards.

09534

THE SAUDI DERADICALIZATION EXPERIMENT

By Marisa L. Porges, Council on Foreign Relations, January 22, 2010.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21292/saudi_deradicalization_experiment.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief

Saudi Arabia's program to deradicalize suspected terrorists has experienced some high-profile failures but could still provide important lessons for other states, says Marisa Porges.

09535

THE STATUS REPORT: ASSESSING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S FIRST YEAR

By Brookings Institution, January 2010.

[http://www.brookings.edu/about/status-report.aspx?rssid=LatestFromBrookings&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+BrookingsRSS%2Ftopfeeds%2FLatestFromBrookings+\(Brookings%3A+Latest+From+Brookings\)](http://www.brookings.edu/about/status-report.aspx?rssid=LatestFromBrookings&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+BrookingsRSS%2Ftopfeeds%2FLatestFromBrookings+(Brookings%3A+Latest+From+Brookings))

In January 2010, one year into the new presidency, Brookings experts rated the progress of the new administration on those same issues in The Status Report, a series of daily commentary and video. Each of the items provides an assessment of President Obama's performance in light of recommendations made during the Presidential Transition.

09536

TERRORISM'S NEW AVATARS PART I: FIGHTING AL QAEDA IN YEMEN IS AN IMPORTANT BATTLE OF A BROADER WAR

By Bruce Riedel, YaleGlobal, January 7, 2010.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/terrorism%E2%80%99s-new-avatars-part-i>

The foiled bombing of Northwest flight 253 brings to light the global nature of terrorist expansion. Many would have thought it unlikely that ill-governed and little-considered Yemen would be the source of an attack on the United States. The author relates that Yemen has long been a chaotic country governed weakly or by outsiders, a perfect breeding ground for terrorist activity.

09537

TERRORISM'S NEW AVATARS PART II: AL QAEDA RECRUITS TERRORISTS ON-LINE, TURNING THE DEMOCRATIC SPACE ON IT'S HEAD

By Gabriel Weimann, YaleGlobal, January 12, 2010.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/terrorisms-new-avatars-part-ii>

Amid the clamor surrounding intelligence failures and opening of new fronts in counter-terrorism effort, a new link has come to light, the open space of the Internet. Conventional wisdom holds that the war in Afghanistan weakened Al Qaeda and eroded its operational efficiency. Gabriel Weimann believes this to be far from the truth. Social networking sites, online chat rooms, streaming video and many other features have made the Internet an ideal tool not only to connect disparate terrorist cells, improving operational coordination, but also to recruit new members while bolstering cohesion among current jihadists.

09538

TROUBLED PARTNERSHIP: U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS IN AN ERA OF GLOBAL GEOPOLITICAL CHANGE

By F. Stephen Larrabee, RAND, February 2010, 164 pages.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2009/RAND_MG899.pdf

There is a summary at <http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG899/>

A strong security partnership with Turkey has been an important element of U.S. policy for the last five decades. However, in the last few years, U.S.-Turkish relations have seriously deteriorated, and today they are badly in need of repair. The arrival of a new administration in Washington presents an important opportunity to put Washington's relations with Ankara on a firmer footing. Turkey plays a critical role in four areas of increasing strategic importance to the United States: the Balkans, Central Asia and the Caucasus, the Middle East, and the Persian Gulf. In each of these areas, Ankara's cooperation is vital to achieving U.S. policy objectives.

U.S. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: BACKGROUND AND CURRENT ISSUES

By Kennon H. Nakamura and Matthew C. Weed, Congressional Research Service, December 18, 2009, 70 pages.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/134964.pdf>

Public diplomacy is defined in different ways, but broadly it is a term used to describe a government's efforts to conduct foreign policy and promote national interests through direct outreach and communication with the population of a foreign country. Public diplomacy activities include providing information to foreign publics through broadcast and Internet media and at libraries and other outreach facilities in foreign countries; conducting cultural diplomacy, such as art exhibits and music performances; and administering international educational and professional exchange programs. The United States has long sought to influence the peoples of foreign countries through public diplomacy. After World War II, during which the U.S. military conducted most information and communication activities, authority for U.S. public diplomacy was placed in civilian hands. During the Cold War, the United States Information Agency (USIA) led U.S. public diplomacy efforts, with a primary mission of combating Soviet propaganda and the spread of communism. Once the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, USIA's role was diminished, and its resources were reduced during the 1990s. Finally, USIA was abolished in 1999 as part of a post-Cold War reorganization, with public diplomacy responsibilities folded into the Department of State.

YEMEN ON THE BRINK: IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

By Christopher Boucek, house committee on foreign affairs, Carnegie endowment for international peace; February 03, 2010.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/0203_testimony_boucek.pdf

Chairman Berman, Ranking Member Ros-Lehtinen, and distinguished members of the committee, thank you for inviting me here today. Yemen is beset by a host of challenges that endanger both its domestic stability and regional security. The United States and the international community must act now, before conditions deteriorate further, to help Yemen meet these challenges. While Yemen has survived crises in the past, they have tended to be singular events, while the many problems it now faces are unprecedented in range and scope.

The problems include international terrorism, violent extremism, religious and tribal conflict, separatism, and transnational smuggling. Attempts to build effective national governance are frustrated by porous borders, a heavily armed population, and a historical absence of much central government control. Yemen is strategically located between Saudi Arabia and Somalia—part of two different yet interconnected regions, the Arabian Peninsula and the Horn of Africa. This fact often frustrates policy analyses; Yemen is excluded from the wealthy Gulf Cooperation Council, but is in many ways more resilient than its East African neighbors. More than 3 million barrels of oil pass the country's coast every day, through treacherous waters where Islamist terrorists and Somali pirates have staged several successful maritime attacks, threatening to disrupt international commerce and the flow of vital hydrocarbons.

DEMOCRACY & RULE OF LAW

09541

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING: IMPROVED COMMUNICATION COULD ENHANCE THE SUPPORT FINCEN PROVIDES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

By U.S. Government Accountability Office, December 2009, 44 pages.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10141.pdf>

The majority of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) GAO surveyed reported finding FinCEN's support useful in their efforts to investigate and prosecute financial crimes, but FinCEN could enhance its support by better informing LEAs about its services and products and actively soliciting their input.

09542

IN PURSUIT OF DEMOCRACY AND SECURITY IN THE GREATER MIDDLE EAST: A USIP STUDY GROUP REPORT.

By Daniel Brumberg, principal author, U.S. Institute of Peace, January 21, 2010, 73 pages.

<http://www.usip.org/files/resources/Reform%20and%20Security%20WP%201.21.pdf>

This report offers a set of general and country-specific findings and recommendations to assist the Obama administration in its efforts to tackle escalating security challenges while sustaining diplomatic, institutional and economic support for democracy and human rights in the Greater Middle East.

The working group recognizes that addressing threats from terrorist groups affiliated with al-Qaeda, as well as stemming conflicts arising from the persistence of regional conflicts in the Middle East and South Asia, must be a top priority. But, as the case studies of Yemen, Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon amply demonstrate, long-term political stability, economic development and security also requires a continued and even enhanced U.S. commitment, in both words and deeds, to fostering democratic transformation, human rights and effective governance. The architecture of security and peacemaking must be accompanied by a revived focus on democratic reforms.

09543

MIDTERM ELECTION CHALLENGES FOR BOTH PARTIES: OBAMA'S RATINGS ARE FLAT, WALL STREET'S ARE ABYSMAL

By Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, February 12, 2010, 63 pages.

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/589.pdf>

Nine months ahead of the midterm elections, voters have conflicted attitudes about both political parties. Opinions of the Republican Party have improved significantly, and for the first time in years the GOP's favorable ratings nearly equal the Democratic Party's. Voting intentions for the fall elections also remain closely divided. However, the Democratic Party is still better regarded in many respects than is the GOP and far more people continue to blame the Republicans than the Democrats for the current state of the economy. And despite frustrations with his stewardship of the economy, bottom-line opinions of Barack Obama have not changed in the past few months.

09544

MORE THAN ELECTIONS: HOW DEMOCRACIES TRANSFER POWERS.

By *eJournal USA*, *America.gov*, January 2010.

<http://www.america.gov/media/pdf/ejs/0110.pdf#popup>

This issue explores the contours of civil society and political legitimacy within which peaceful transitions of power can occur. Democracy requires more than holding elections. Healthy democracies are defined by the expectations of citizens and the common rules, understandings, and trust they build.

09545

NARCO-JIHAD: DRUG TRAFFICKING AND SECURITY IN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN

By Ehsan Ahrari et al. *National Bureau of Asian Research*, January 7, 2010, 68 pages.

<http://www.nbr.org/publications/specialreport/pdf/sr20.pdf>

In an essay on the nexus between the narcotics economy and violent conflict in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Vanda Felbab-Brown explores the factors supporting opium production in those countries. Felbab-Brown also offers options for successful counter-narcotics policies and for building an alternative legal economy throughout the struggling region.

09546

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

By Martin Scheinin, U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, January 19, 2010, 35 pages.

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/terrorism/rapporteur/docs/A_HRC_13_37_AEV.pdf

“The current wave of privacy-intrusive measures in the name of countering terrorism should be countered through a global declaration on data protection and data privacy,” the U.N. Special Rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism Martin Scheinin said in the latest report which focuses on the erosion of the right to privacy in the fight against terrorism. The report critically assesses developments that have adversely affected the right to privacy in various parts of the world using the justification of combating terrorism. These include racial or ethnic profiling, creation of privacy-intrusive databases and resorting to new technology, such as body scanners, without proper human rights assessment.

09547

THE THINK TANKS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES PROGRAM 2009

By James G. McGann, THE GLOBAL “GO-TO THINK TANKS”, January 21, 2010, 66 pages.

<http://www.ony.unu.edu/2009%20global%20go%20to%20think%20tank%20report.pdf>

Considering the continuing technological advances that inevitably further the increasingly complex and overwhelming amount of available information, it is perhaps no surprise that good ideas can be lost within the sea of talking heads and endless waves of white papers. As such, developing efficient methods of organizing and filtering policy ideas in order to effectively react and respond to the dynamic policymaking environment is critical. Witte and Reinicke identify two pitfalls of the current information age: the first, called the “operational gap,” refers to the fact that many policymakers lack the necessary information and tools to respond to contemporary problems; the second, known as the “participatory gap,” describes how individuals and private organizations perceive themselves as excluded from the policymaking process.¹ But this gap structure does not fully address the true complexity of issues facing global policymakers. While policymakers may lack the tools to quickly respond to a critical policy problem, often they suffer not from a lack of information but from an “avalanche of information” that gets in the way of effective decision making. Overcoming these obstacles often requires knowing where to turn for rigorous, reliable and accessible information and analysis.

Think tanks, or public policy research institutions, have begun to prove their utility in the domestic policy sphere as information transfer mechanisms and agents of change by aggregating and creating new knowledge through collaboration with diverse public and private actors. The UNDP identifies think tanks as “[the] bridge between knowledge and power”. Certainly, this is true; at their best, think tanks are the filters and synthesizers that facilitate the identification of policy issues, the design of policy solutions, and the implementation of and feedback on policy decisions. The proliferation, global expansion, and networking of think tanks have magnified the potential for them to research and develop solutions to global public policy issues of today.

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

09548

6th ANNUAL AP REPORT TO THE NATION

By College Board, February 10, 2010, 20 pages.

http://www.collegeboard.com/html/aprtn/pdf/ap_report_to_the_nation.pdf

The report uses a combination of state, national and AP Program data to provide each U.S. state with the context it can use to celebrate its successes, understand its unique challenges, and set meaningful, data-driven goals to prepare more students for success in college.

09549

COLLEGE- AND CAREER-READY: USING OUTCOMES DATA TO HOLD HIGH SCHOOLS ACCOUNTABLE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

By Chad Aldeman, Education Sector, January 12, 2010, 15 pages.

http://www.educationsector.org/usr_doc/College-Ready.pdf

According to the Florida Department of Education, Manatee High School was not a place parents should have wanted to send their children in 2006. The Bradenton-based school received a “D” rating on the state’s A–F scale of academic performance. At the same time, Boca Raton Community High School was flying high, having just earned its second straight “A” rating and being named among the best high schools in the country by Newsweek magazine. But Manatee was actually quite successful in a number of important ways. It graduated a higher percentage of its students than Boca Raton and sent almost the same percentage of its graduates off to college. Once they arrived on college campuses, Manatee graduates earned higher grades and fewer of them failed remedial, not-for-credit math and English courses than their Boca Raton peers.

09550

WHO ARE AMERICA’S POOR CHILDREN? THE OFFICIAL STORY

By Vanessa R. Wright et al, National Center for Children in Poverty, January 2010, 8 pages.

http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_912.pdf

More than 13 million American children live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level, which is \$22,050 a year for a family of four. The number of children living in poverty increased by 21 percent between 2000 and 2008. There are 2.5 million more children living in poverty today than in 2000. The fact sheet details some of the characteristics of American children who are considered poor by the official standard.

09551

RECONCILING HOUSE AND SENATE HEALTH REFORM PROPOSALS: ELIGIBILITY, RETENTION POLICIES THAT WILL MAXIMIZE HEALTH COVERAGE AMONG THE LOW-INCOME UNINSURED

By Stan Dorn, Urban Institute, January 13, 2010, 12 pages.

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412004_health_reform_proposals.pdf

For health reform legislation to maximize coverage among low-income, uninsured Americans, the administrative details for subsidies need to make enrollment and retention simple, seamless, and as automatic as possible for consumers. Neither the House nor the Senate health reform bill extends to Medicaid the streamlined procedures that apply to other subsidies. The lawmakers could establish, for all subsidy systems, a single, streamlined system for eligibility determination, enrollment, and retention that minimizes the need for consumers to complete paperwork.

09552

RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION IN AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE: A JOINT STATEMENT OF CURRENT LAW

By Anti-Defamation League and Center for Religion and Public Affairs, Wake Forest University School of Divinity, January 2010, 36 pages.

http://www.adl.org/religious_freedom/WFU-Divinity-Joint-Statement.pdf

The role of religion in American life continues to be a subject of national discussion and debate. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has joined with a diverse group of organizations in a statement about the current state of the law regarding religious expression in the United States. The document attempts to clearly set an accurate understanding of the current state of the law. It does not focus on what the law should be, but rather what the law is today.

09553

STANDARDS FOR A NEW CENTURY

By Karen Theroux, Carnegie Reporter, vol. 5, no. 3, Fall 2009, pp. 28-34, 36.

http://www.carnegie.org/reporter/pdf/19/Reporter_Fall_2009.pdf

Theroux, a writer with the Carnegie Corporation's public-affairs department, writes that the Obama administration is focused on education reform, particularly on the upgrading of standards; there is support from the leadership on Capitol Hill, plus the realization that there are proven strategies that work in the classroom. The United States is preparing to switch from mostly local control of education to nationally aligned Common Core State Standards -- evidence-based, internationally benchmarked guidelines that are expected to transform teaching and learning across the country, allowing students uniform access to higher education and greater opportunity. Assessments and standards are inseparable, and innovation in testing and accountability is critical to transforming the education system.

09554

TRENDS IN VOLUNTEERISM AMONG OLDER ADULTS

Fact sheet, Sloan Center on Aging and Work, at Boston College, January 2010, 2 pages.

http://agingandwork.bc.edu/documents/FS03_TrendsVolunteerism_2010-01-14.pdf

Estimates of the extent to which older adults participate in volunteer activities vary; one survey reports that about 30% adults aged 45-54 volunteered at least once in the preceding year, while another survey reports volunteer work by over 50% of adults over age 50. Volunteers contribute their time to a wide range of secular and religious organizations, in such activities as mentoring, coaching, tutoring, office services, and management assistance. Over 40% of older adults expect to increase the amount of time spent in volunteer work in the next five years. Older adults are more likely to continue to volunteer with organizations that offer opportunities to contribute managerial or professional skills, as well as flexible work schedules.

09555

VOLUNTEERISM: NATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY ANNUAL REPORT SHOWS STRONG 2009 PERFORMANCE

By Corporation for National and Community Service, November 2009, 68 pages.

http://www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/afr_2009_fullreport.pdf

There is a press release at

http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/newsroom/releases_detail.asp?tbl_pr_id=1571

The scope of this report includes an assessment of the overall performance and effectiveness of the agency.

Washington, DC - The Corporation for National and Community Service released its Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Financial Report (AFR), which presents an overall assessment of agency performance, including financial management and audit. The report confirms that the agency and its programs are meeting critical needs in education, youth development, disaster relief, health and other human needs in communities across the country through high quality service programs.

For Fiscal Year 2009, the Corporation produced an alternative to the consolidated Performance and Accountability Report (PAR), as authorized under the Office of Management and Budget's Pilot Program. The alternative includes the AFR and the agency's forthcoming Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Performance Report, which will be a component of the Fiscal Year 2011 Congressional Budget Justification to be provided in February 2010.

09556

VOLUNTEERING IN THE UNITED STATES, 2009

By Bureau of Labor Statistics, January 26, 2010.

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm>

Both the number of volunteers and the volunteer rate rose over the year ended in September 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. About 63.4 million people, or 26.8 percent of the population, volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2008 and September 2009. In 2008, the volunteer rate was 26.4 percent.

Celebrating Black History Month February 2010

www.America.gov

Learn about the contributions of significant but less-prominent African Americans. Readers suggest future chapter...s to grow this Living Book. Black History Month celebrates the work of Americans such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Barack Obama, Sojourner Truth, Marian Anderson and Jackie Robinson.

<http://www.america.gov/amlife/people.html>

- Photo Gallery: Historically Black Colleges and Universities

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/4110/hbcu/>

- Photo Gallery: The U.S. Civil Rights Movement

http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/39/civil_rights_07/

- Photo Gallery: Historically Black Colleges and Universities

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/4110/hbcu/>

- Photo Gallery: Black Economic Empowerment in America

http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/30145/black_econ/

09557

2010 BLACK HISTORY THEME: THE HISTORY OF BLACK ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.

By Association for the Study of African American Life and History, 2010.

<http://www.asalh.org/>

According to the Association, the need for economic development has been a central element of black life. After centuries of unrequited toil as slaves, African Americans gained their freedom and found themselves in the struggle to make a living. Black codes often prevented blacks from owning land in towns and cities, and in the countryside they were often denied the opportunity to purchase land. To fight exclusion from the economy, they started their own unions and professional associations. In an age in which individuals proved unable to counter industrialization alone, they preached racial or collective uplift rather than individual self-reliance. The late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries witnessed an unprecedented degree of racial solidarity and organization.

09558

2010 NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN

By National Council of Teachers of English, January 2010.

<http://www.ncte.org/action/aari/packetinfo>

It is the Twenty-First National African American Read-In. Schools, churches, libraries, bookstores, community and professional organizations, and interested citizens are urged to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month by hosting and coordinating Read-Ins in their communities.

09559

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

By Law Library, Library of Congress May 27, 2009.

<http://www.loc.gov/law/help/commemorative-observations/african-american.php>

National African American History Month in February celebrates the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepens our understanding of our Nation's history.

09560

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY: PROMINENT AFRICAN AMERICANS PAST AND PRESENT

By Lakewood City Schools, 2010.

<http://www.lkwdpl.org/schools/blhist/>

The site lists prominent African Americans from the past and the present with links.

09561

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS: 1870-2009

By Jennifer E. Manning and Colleen J. Shogan, Congressional Research Service, February 2, 2010, 66 pages.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL30378.pdf>

There are 42 African American Members serving in the 111th Congress, 41 in the House of Representatives and one in the Senate. President Barack Obama served in the Senate until he resigned on November 16, 2008. There have been 125 African American Members of Congress: 119 have been elected to the House; five have been elected to the Senate; and one has been appointed to the Senate. There have been 98 Democrats: 95 in the House, three in the Senate; and 27 Republicans: 24 in the House, three in the Senate.

The number of African American Members has steadily increased since the first African Americans entered Congress in 1870. There were fewer than 10 Members until the 91st Congress (1969-1971). In the 98th Congress (1983-1985), the number surpassed 20 for the first time and then jumped to 40 in the 103rd Congress (1993-1995). Since the 106th Congress (1999-2001), the number has remained between 39 and 43 serving at any one time.

The first African American Member of Congress was Hiram Rhodes Revels (R-MS), who served in the Senate in the 41st Congress (1870-1871). The first African American Member of the House was Joseph H. Rainey (R-SC), who also served in the 41st Congress.

09562

AFRICAN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES: PAMPHLETS FROM THE DANIEL A. P. MURRAY COLLECTION 1818-1907

American Memory, Library of Congress. 2010.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aap/aaphome.html>

The collection presents a panoramic and eclectic review of African-American history and culture, spanning almost one hundred years from the early nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries, with the bulk of the material published between 1875 and 1900. Among the authors represented are Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Benjamin W. Arnett, Alexander Crummel, and Emanuel Love.

09563

BLACK (AFRICAN-AMERICAN) HISTORY MONTH: FEBRUARY 2010. Facts for Features, U.S. Census Bureau

By December 2, 2009, 6 pages.

http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/pdf/cb10ff-01_blackhistory.pdf

To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week. The first celebration occurred on Feb. 12, 1926. The U.S. Census provides numbers and demographics for African Americans.

09564

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

By Smithsonian Education, January 2010.

http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage_month/bhm/index.html

<http://heritagetours.si.edu/bhm.html>

The Smithsonian Education site has many links to events, African American Virtual Tour and other resources.

09565

BLACKS UPBEAT ABOUT BLACK PROGRESS, PROSPECTS: A YEAR AFTER OBAMA'S ELECTION

By Pew Research Center, January 12, 2010, 109 pages.

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/assets/pdf/blacks-upbeat-about-black-progress-prospects.pdf>

A comprehensive new survey of racial attitudes finds that a year after Barack Obama's election, blacks' assessments about the state of black progress in America have improved more dramatically than at any time in the last quarter century. The poll finds an upbeat set of black views on a wide range of matters, including race relations, local community satisfaction and expectations for future black progress. But at the same time, some views on race show little change. Most blacks still have doubts about the basic racial fairness of American society.

09566

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

By The Biography Channel, January 2010.

<http://www.biography.com/blackhistory/index.jsp>

The site includes interactive timeline, history, people, and others.

09567

EVENTS IN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY, 2000+

By Gale Cengage Learning, 2009.

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/index.htm 1600-1699

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/1700.htm 1700-1799

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/1800.htm 1800-1849

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/1850.htm 1850-1899

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/1900.htm 1900-1949

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/1950.htm 1950-1999

http://www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/bhm/timeline/2000.htm 2000-

The timeline for 2000+ provides up to President Obama's cabinet selections.

09568

THE NAACP: A CENTURY IN THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

By Library of Congress, February 3, 2010.

<http://myloc.gov/exhibitions/naacp/Pages/default.aspx>

In commemoration of African American History Month, the Library of Congress on Feb. 3 will launch a new online exhibition about the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), an organization which has donated its records to the Library, where they are the most-consulted collection. The exhibit presents a retrospective of the major personalities, events, and achievements that shaped the NAACP's history during its first 100 years.

Celebrating Women's History Month

March 2010

09569

THE BETTER HALF: HELPING WOMEN HELP THE WORLD

By Isobel Coleman, Foreign Affairs, January/February 2010.

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/65728/isobel-coleman/the-better-half>

Coleman, Senior Fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations, writes that efforts to help women gain more economic and political power is more than a worthy moral crusade – it is probably the most effective means to promote development and stability around the world. During a tour of Africa in August 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton underscored women's rights as a crucial foreign-policy issue by spending a great deal of time meeting with a variety of women's groups. In a review of Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn's new book, *HALF THE SKY*, Coleman remarks that it is now well-known among the international-development community that aid provided to women generates much greater benefits, because women are more likely to use it to improve their families' circumstances. Coleman acknowledges the difficulty of eliminating the deeply rooted social traditions that underlie the discrimination, marginalization and abuse of women and girls, and notes that in some instances, the problems may get worse: the globalization of trade and communication has created new channels for sex trafficking and incited contagious forms of violence against women. Coleman notes that the fundamental challenge to improving the status of women is cultural -- Many people in the West too often ignore the problems confronting women in other parts of the world by dismissing, or even condoning, the oppressive practices there as those of a different culture ... Culture, in fact, is contested in every country, and societal norms are far from immutable."

09570

Why Do So Many Women End Up in Bad Jobs? *A Cross-Country Assessment*

Working paper by OECD Development Centre, January 2010, 50 pages.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/37/44524668.pdf>

This paper addresses the important, yet under-researched phenomenon of a 'feminization of bad jobs'. By using an innovative new composite indicator measuring the degree of social discrimination against women – the OECD's Development Centre's Social Institutions and Development Index (SIG), the authors find that employment outcomes of women indeed often depend on the socio-economic environment shaped by long lasting norms, social values and traditions. The findings of the authors urgently call for a more broad-based policy approach in the area of labour markets and social protection. In order to allow women to take full advantage of their capabilities, addressing issues such as 'son preference and civil liberties constraining women's physical movement needs to be addressed.

This work marks the beginning of a series of papers using the SIGI index in economic analysis. In the last years the OECD Development Centre has been focussing intensively on further developing its Gender, Institutions and Development Data Base, the creation of the composite index SIGI as well as the introduction of a participatory tool for exchange and discussion on gender – WIKIGENDER. While the Centre will continue this work and enlarge the SIGI index within the next years to include also OECD countries, we will increasingly make use of this new tools in economic and social analysis. With the help of these analysis we aim to influence and shape a more informed policy dialogue on gender and development.

09571

THE WOMEN'S CRUSADE

By Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, New York Times Magazine, August 23, 2009

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/23/magazine/23Women-t.html?pagewanted=1#>

In the lead article of a special issue of the magazine entitled SAVING THE WORLD'S WOMEN, the authors argue that the paramount moral challenge of this century may be the appalling brutality inflicted on millions of women and girls around the world, such as sex trafficking, physical attacks, mass rape and bride burning. They cite estimates that there are about 100 million missing women and girls worldwide -- more than all the men killed in conflicts of the past century -- due to abuse, neglect, sex-selective abortion and infanticide. In much of the developing world, girls are uneducated and women marginalized -- and it is no accident that those countries are mired in poverty and chaos. There is growing recognition among aid groups, the World Bank and the U.S. military that focusing on women and girls is the most effective way to fight poverty and extremism. More aid is being directed to women through groups like Heifer International, a U.S.-based charity that gives small farm animals to families in poor countries. The authors profile several women, including Tererai Trent of Zimbabwe, whose father would not let her go to school and who was forced into an early and abusive marriage. When the head of Heifer visited her village she encouraged Trent to believe in her dream of getting an education. She eventually moved to the U.S., went to college and is finishing work toward a PhD. [Update: she successfully defended her PhD thesis in mid-October.] The authors adapted this essay from their new book, HALF THE SKY: TURNING OPPRESSION INTO OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN WORLDWIDE.

09572

WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS: 1917-2009

By Jennifer E. Manning and Colleen J. Shogan, Congressional Research Service, December 23, 2009, 107 pages.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL30261.pdf>

A record 93 women currently serve in the 111th Congress: 76 in the House (59 Democrats and 17 Republicans) and 17 in the Senate (13 Democrats and 4 Republicans). Ninety-five women were initially elected to the 111th Congress. Since the 111th Congress convened, two of these—Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Representative Hilda Solis (D-CA)—resigned to take cabinet positions in the administration of President Obama, and a third, Representative Ellen Tauscher (D-CA), resigned to become Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. Also, Representative Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) resigned from the House when she was appointed to fill the seat vacated by Senator Clinton, and Representative Judy Chu (D-CA) was elected in July 2009 to fill the seat vacated by Representative Solis.

The first woman elected to Congress was Representative Jeannette Rankin (R-MT, 1917-1919, 1941-1943). The first woman to serve in the Senate was Rebecca Latimer Felton (D-GA). She was appointed in 1922 and served for only one day.

A total of 260 women have served in Congress, 170 Democrats and 90 Republicans. Of these women, 222 (145 Democrats, 77 Republicans) have served only in the House of Representatives; 30 (19 Democrats, 11 Republicans) have served only in the Senate; and 8 (6 Democrats, 2 Republicans) have served in both houses. These figures include one Delegate each from Guam, Hawaii, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

09573

WOMEN, MEN, AND THE NEW ECONOMICS OF MARRIAGE

By Richard Fry and D'Vera Cohn. Pew Research Center, January 19, 2010, 37 pages.

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/assets/pdf/new-economics-of-marriage.pdf>

<http://pewsocialtrends.org/pubs/750/new-economics-of-marriage>

The institution of marriage has undergone significant changes in recent decades as women have outpaced men in education and earnings growth. These unequal gains have been accompanied by gender role reversals in both the spousal characteristics and the economic benefits of marriage.

A larger share of men in 2007, compared with their 1970 counterparts, are married to women whose education and income exceed their own, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of demographic and economic trend data. A larger share of women are married to men with less education and income.

From an economic perspective, these trends have contributed to a gender role reversal in the gains from marriage. In the past, when relatively few wives worked, marriage enhanced the economic status of women more than that of men. In recent decades, however, the economic gains associated with marriage have been greater for men than for women

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY & TRADE ISSUES

09574

2010 INDEX OF ECONOMIC FREEDOM

By The Heritage Foundation and Wall Street Journal, January 2010, 8 pages.

<http://www.heritage.org/index/> [HTML format with links].

http://www.heritage.org/index/pdf/2010/Index2010_ExecutiveHighlights.pdf

The Index covers 183 countries around the world, ranking 179 of them with an economic freedom score based on 10 measures of economic openness, regulatory efficiency, the rule of law, and competitiveness. The basic principles of economic freedom emphasized in the Index are individual empowerment, equitable treatment, and the promotion of competition.

09575

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY IN AND BEYOND THE CRISIS

By David Haugh et al, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, January 26, 2010, 36 pages.

[http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000009FE/\\$FILE/JT03277464.PDF](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/oilis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT000009FE/$FILE/JT03277464.PDF)

The paper considers the role of the automobile industry in the current cycle. It shows that the industry is economically important and its cycle is intertwined with business cycles.

09576

CLIMATE SHOCKS AND EXPORTS

By Benjamin F. Jones and Benjamin A. Olken, National Bureau of Economic Research. Web posted February 1, 2010, 12 pages.

<http://www.nber.org/papers/w15711.pdf>

The paper uses international trade data to examine the effects of climate shocks on economic activity. It examines panel models relating the annual growth rate of a country's exports in a particular product category to the country's weather in that year. The paper finds that a poor country being 1 degree Celsius warmer in a given year reduces the growth rate of that country's exports by between 2.0 and 5.7 percentage points, with no detectable effects in rich countries. It also finds negative effects of temperature on exports of both agricultural products and light manufacturing products, with little apparent effects on heavy industry or raw materials.

09577

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE FOR POVERTY REDUCTION

By OECD working paper, January 2010, 27 pages.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/11/57/44420648.pdf>

This paper reports findings from analysis done for the project “The economic importance of agriculture for sustainable development and poverty reduction” financed by a grant from the Government of the Netherlands as part of the 2009-2010 Program of Work of the Committee for Agriculture (COAG). Earlier versions of the paper were discussed at meetings of the Working Party of the COAG on Agricultural Policies and Markets (APM). The authors wish to thank the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of the Netherlands for the financial support, and are grateful for the many helpful comments received on earlier versions of the paper provided both by Member Country Delegations to the APM meetings and by numerous OECD colleagues.

09578

THE EMERGING MIDDLE CLASS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

By Homi Kharas, OECD, January 2010, 61 pages.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/12/52/44457738.pdf>

Over the last twenty years, economic and political power has been shifting towards emerging economies. A number of developing countries have become centres of strong growth, raising their shares of global income significantly, which has made them major players in regional and global affairs. Furthermore, flows of trade, aid and investment between emerging and developing countries have all intensified.

The Global Development Outlook 2010 presents the evidence which documents these changes, what we call ‘Shifting Wealth’. As the world emerges from the crisis, the report clarifies this new global reality and what it means for development. Clearly, it implies that development strategies need to be rethought in the new international environment. The GDO 2010 suggests ways in which developing countries can best take advantage of the new economic landscape and supports calls for global governance to be reformed, making it more inclusive.

The Global Development Outlook has been guided by and contributed to by eminent scholars from developing and emerging countries, our Non-Residential Fellows. This paper, by Homi Kharas, from the Brookings Institute in Washington, is one of the first to be published in the series. The theme is a fascinating one, looking at the potential growth of the global middle class in the developing world. In the aftermath of the financial crisis, Homi’s paper carries an important message - over the coming decades Asia’s emerging middle class will be large enough to become one of the main drivers of the global economy.

09579

THE GLOBAL CRISIS AND THE FUTURE OF THE DOLLAR: TOWARD BRETTON WOODS III?

By, Jorg Bibow, Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, February 2010, 20 pages.

http://www.levy.org/pubs/wp_584.pdf

The paper investigates the United States dollar's role as the international currency of choice as a key contributing factor in critical global developments that led to the crisis of 2007–09, and considers the future role of the dollar as the global economy emerges from that crisis. It is argued that the dollar is likely to retain its hegemonic status for a few more decades, but that United States spending powered by public rather than private debt would provide a more sustainable motor for global growth. In the process, the “Bretton Woods II” regime depicted by Dooley, Folkerts-Landau, and Garber (2003) as sustainable despite featuring persistent U.S. current account deficits may turn into a “Bretton Woods III” regime that sees U.S. fiscal policy and public debt as “minding the store” in maintaining U.S. and global growth.

09580

GLOBALIZATION: CURSE OR CURE?

The Jagadeesh Gokhale, Cato Institute, February 1, 2010, 24 pages.

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa659.pdf>

Globalization holds tremendous promise to improve human welfare but can also cause conflicts and crises as witnessed during 2007–09. How will competition for resources, employment, and growth shape economic policies among developed nations as they attempt to maintain productivity growth, social protections, and extensive political and cultural freedoms? The author strives to answer these questions.

09581

IS THE INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF THE DOLLAR CHANGING?

By Linda S. Goldberg. Federal Reserve Bank of New York, January 2010, 7 pages.

http://www.newyorkfed.org/research/current_issues/ci16-1.pdf

There is a summary at http://www.newyorkfed.org/research/current_issues/ci16-1.html

Recently the U.S. dollar's preeminence as an international currency has been questioned. The emergence of the euro, changes in the dollar's value, and the financial market crisis have, in the view of many commentators, posed a significant challenge to the currency's long-standing position in world markets. However, a study of the dollar across critical areas of international trade and finance suggests that the dollar has retained its standing in key roles. While changes in the global status of the dollar are possible, factors such as inertia in currency use, the large size and relative stability of the U.S. economy, and the dollar pricing of oil and other commodities will help perpetuate the dollar's role as the dominant medium for international transactions.

09582

LINKAGE BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND COMPETITIVENESS

By Leena Lankoski, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, January 13, 2010, 54 pages.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/0/8/44392874.pdf>

Debates exist between those who claim that environmental policy will impose additional burdens and costs on industries, thus impairing their competitiveness, and those who claim that improved environmental performance can spur competitiveness.

09583

OPEC REVENUES FACT SHEET

By Energy Information Administration January 2010, 3 pages.

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC_Revenues/pdf.pdf

Based on projections from the EIA January 2010 Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO), members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could earn \$767 billion of net oil export revenues in 2010 and \$833 billion in 2011. Last year, OPEC earned \$573 billion in net oil export revenues, a 41 percent decrease from 2008. Saudi Arabia earned the largest share of these earnings, \$154 billion, representing 27 percent of total OPEC revenues. On a per-capita basis, OPEC net oil export earnings reached \$1,553 in 2009, a 42 percent decrease from 2008.

09584

POLICIES FOR INCREASING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT IN 2010 AND 2011

By Susan Yang, Congressional Budget Office, January 2010, 34 pages.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/108xx/doc10803/01-14-Employment.pdf>

The number of jobs in the United States has declined almost every month since December 2007. Nearly all professional forecasters believe that the economy has begun to recover from the recent recession, but many also predict that the pace of the recovery will be slow and that unemployment will remain high for several years.

09585

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES: OVERVIEW OF PARTICIPATION IN U.S. EXPORTS

By U.S. International Trade Commission, January 19, 2010, 91 pages.

<http://www.usitc.gov/publications/332/pub4125.pdf>

U.S. small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) accounted for about 30 percent of known U.S. merchandise exports between 1997 and 2007, according to the study. The most heavily exported goods were computer and electronic products, machinery, and chemicals, with the biggest share of merchandise exports going to Canada and Mexico, according to the report.

09586

THE UNION OF THE STATES

By Center for Economic and Policy Research. February 2010, 23 pages.

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/unions-states-2010-02.pdf>

The report reviews unionization rates, the size and composition of the unionized workforce, and the wage and benefit advantage for union workers in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia, using the most recent data available and focusing on the period 2003-2009. Pooling data from the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) over that period yields a sample size large enough to look at the experience of even the smallest states.

GLOBAL & ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

09587

2009: SECOND WARMEST YEAR ON RECORD

By Goddard Institute for Space Studies, January 21, 2010

<http://www.giss.nasa.gov/research/news/20100121/>

2009 was tied for the second warmest year in the modern record, a new NASA analysis of global surface temperature shows. The analysis, conducted by the Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in New York City, also shows that in the Southern Hemisphere, 2009 was the warmest year since modern records began in 1880.

09588

2009 WORLD POPULATION DATA SHEET

By Population Reference Bureau, January 2010, 19 pages.

http://www.prb.org/pdf09/09wpds_eng.pdf

The Population Reference Bureau publishes dozens of articles on population, health, and environment topics on its website each year. Of all the content published in 2009, which topics attracted the most web visitors to the website? The PRB ranked the articles and webcasts by the number of times they were viewed.

09589

BEYOND MINARETS: EUROPE'S GROWING PROBLEM WITH ISLAM: CAN ONE BE BOTH EUROPEAN AND MUSLIM?

By Shada Islam, YaleGlobal. January 14, 2010.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/beyond-minarets-europes-growing-problem>

Switzerland's ban on building minarets is emblematic of a larger issue in Europe, according to the report. It highlights not only the increasing divide between Muslims and non-Muslims in the continent, but also the need for Europe to embrace multiculturalism. Many believe that Muslims are flooding in, taking jobs, and would like to turn Europe into a land ruled by Islamic law. Yet, Muslims only represent three percent of population. On the other hand, Muslims seem to have done little to assimilate, or at least find common ground with their fellow citizens, often making demands at odds with a liberal society such as wanting gender segregation in public spaces, according to the author.

09590

CAPTURING RESEARCH IMPACTS: A REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE.

By Jonathan Grant et al. RAND Corporation, January 25, 2010, 92 pages.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/documented_briefings/2010/RAND_DB578.pdf

The report reviews approaches to evaluating the impact of research. The objectives were 1) to review international practice in assessing research impact and 2) to identify relevant challenges, lessons and observations from international practice that help Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) develop a framework for assessing research impact. The report presents the findings based on four case study examples of impact evaluation approaches: the Australian RQF, the UK RAISS method, the US PART framework and the Dutch ERiC framework.

09591

CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE EU EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME (ETS): LOOKING TO 2020

By Larry Parker, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, January 26, 2010, 22 pages.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R41049_20100126.pdf

The European Union's (EU) Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) is a cornerstone of the EU's efforts to meet its obligation under the Kyoto Protocol. It covers more than 10,000 energy intensive facilities across the 27 EU Member countries; covered entities emit about 45% of the EU's carbon dioxide emissions.

09592

CONFRONTING THE LONG CRISIS OF GLOBALIZATION: RISK, RESILIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL ORDER.

By Alex Evans et al. Brookings Institution, January 26, 2010, 50 pages.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/01_globalization_evans_jones_steven/01_globalization_evans_jones_steven.pdf

The nature of risks to global security has changed dramatically since the fall of the Berlin Wall, but our mechanisms for preventing, responding and adapting to them have lagged far behind. While there have been limited efforts to develop more effective international responses, these have been piecemeal and have produced only modest increases in global resilience, according to the report.

09593

THE ECONOMICS OF ADAPTATION TO EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

By Brian Blankespoor et al. Center for Global Development, January 11, 2010.

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1423545>

According to the authors, without international assistance, developing countries will adapt to climate change as best they can. Part of the cost will be absorbed by households and part by the public sector. Adaptation costs will themselves be affected by socioeconomic development, which will also be affected by climate change. Without a better understanding of these interactions, it will be difficult for climate negotiators and donor institutions to determine the appropriate levels and modes of adaptation assistance. The paper contributes by assessing the economics of adaptation to extreme weather events.

09594

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDEX 2010

By Christine Kim et al. Yale University and Columbia University, January 28, 2010.

<http://epi.yale.edu/>

The Index ranks 163 countries on 25 performance indicators tracked across ten policy categories covering both environmental public health and ecosystem vitality. These indicators provide a gauge at a national government scale of how close countries are to established environmental policy goals. The Index's proximity-to-target methodology facilitates cross-country comparisons as well as analysis of how the global community is doing collectively on each particular policy issue.

09595

FAITH AND THE GLOBAL AGENDA: VALUES FOR THE POST-CRISIS ECONOMY

By World Economic Forum, January 18, 2010, 77 pages.

<http://www.weforum.org/pdf/faith/valuesreport.pdf>

Over two-thirds of people believe the current economic crisis is also a crisis of ethics and values. But only 50% think universal values exist. These are among the findings of the report on issues related to the role of faith in global affairs. The report contains a unique new public opinion poll on values conducted through Facebook. The poll reached over 130,000 respondents in France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey and the United States.

09596

FIVE YEARS OF KYOTO

By Nathan Hultman, Brookings Institution, February 9, 2010.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/0209_kyoto_hultman.aspx

On February 16th, the Kyoto Protocol will reach the fifth anniversary of its entry into force, the date at which it received enough ratifications to become legally active. While technically not a “birthday,” the Protocol was negotiated in December 1997, this milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on the wider meaning and significance of this instrument into which perhaps too many expectations were invested.

09597

HUMANITARIAN ACTION REPORT 2010

By UNICEF United States Fund, February 2010. There is a news release at

<http://www.unicefusa.org/news/releases/haiti-27-28-countries-in-crisis-humanitarian-action-report.html>.

<http://www.unicef.org/har2010/>

Middle East and North Africa PART: http://www.unicef.org/har2010/index_mena.html

NEW YORK (February 4, 2010) — As global attention focuses on efforts to provide lifesaving support to the people of Haiti, UNICEF today released its Humanitarian Action Report (HAR) 2010. This annual report spotlights the most severe crises impacting children and women around the world and includes an appeal for additional assistance.

"Haiti was one of the countries UNICEF classified as *in crisis* when the Humanitarian Action Report went to press, even before the earthquake hit," said Hilde F. Johnson, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director. "Faced with multiple hurricanes, in addition to civil unrest, the country was still in need of humanitarian assistance."

09598

SEARCHING FOR A MIRACLE: ‘NET ENERGY’ LIMITS AND THE FATE OF INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

By Richard Heinberg, Post Carbon Institute / International Forum on Globalization, September 2009, 83 pp.

<http://www.postcarbon.org/report/44377-searching-for-a-miracle>

Heinberg, Senior Fellow at the Post Carbon Institute, notes in this special report that the world’s current energy regime is unsustainable -- “the designers of the global economy sold us visions of never-ending growth and abundance ... but now, limits are everywhere apparent.” Conventional fossil and nuclear energy sources are nearing their limits, and their continued use is proving increasingly hazardous to the biosphere.

This report analyzes in detail whether any combination of known or alternative energy sources supply society's energy needs up to the year 2100. Heinberg's disturbing conclusion is that "there is no clear practical scenario" by which energy from today's conventional sources can be replaced with energy from alternative sources to maintain industrial society at its present scale. Key among his assertions is that the net energy yield, or Energy Returned On Energy Invested (EROEI) ratio, on alternative energy systems is much lower than on conventional fossil or nuclear sources, which have powered modern development for a century. He is convinced that energy conservation, combined with gradual population decline, must become primary strategies for achieving sustainability. The report concludes that "this is not great news, but denial is worse . . . current assumptions about our energy options are unrealistic. New thinking is mandatory."

09599

THE OTHER INCONVENIENT TRUTH: THE CRISIS IN GLOBAL LAND USE

By Jonathan Foley, Yale Environment 360, October 5, 2009.

<http://www.e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=2196>

Foley, director of the Institute on the Environment at the University of the Minnesota, writes that the environmental impact of our current agricultural practices rival that of climate change. Already, humanity has converted over a third of the world's ice-free land surface to agriculture, which has been more disruptive to the earth's ecosystems than anything else since the last ice age. Given the world's growing population, we may have to double or even triple agricultural output over the next 30-40 years. Says Foley, "the future of our civilization and our planet requires that we simultaneously address the grand challenges of climate change and land use ... anything less will be a complete catastrophe." He believes that we need to have a larger international conversation to acknowledge the scope of the problem; among the goals he suggests is to invest in new agricultural solutions and bridge the divide that has grown between production agriculture and environmental conservation.

09600

PARENTING THE PLANET

By Sarah Karkoff, University of Colorado Law School, February 10, 2010.

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1548658

Climate change and other environmental problems of global scale indicate that we have entered, as Nobel prize winner Paul Crutzen has described it, the "Anthropocene," the era of pervasive human influence on the earth's natural systems. Further, the collective action features of climate change render it a commons problem of global and intergenerational proportions. The author suggests that the metaphor of parenting, while not perfect, captures the aspects of control, care, and inherent tragedy that characterize the stage that humans now occupy with respect to their relationship with the planet

• Internet Freedom

09601

AGREEMENT ON EU TELECOMS REFORM PAVES WAY FOR STRONGER CONSUMER RIGHTS, AN OPEN INTERNET, A SINGLE EUROPEAN TELECOMS MARKET AND HIGH-SPEED INTERNET CONNECTIONS FOR ALL CITIZENS

By EUROPA, November 5, 2009.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/09/491>

Viviane Reding, the EU Telecoms Commissioner who had been an active party to the final talks, welcomed the agreement found between Parliament and Council: "It is very good news for Europe's citizens that negotiators of the Parliament and Council last night reached agreement on a new Internet freedom provision to be included in the telecoms reform package. This Internet freedom provision is unprecedented across the globe and a strong signal that the EU takes fundamental rights very seriously, in particular when it comes to the Information Society. The agreement on the new Internet freedom provision, which has the unanimous support of all negotiators, now paves the way for a swift entry into force of this telecoms reform.

09602

ARE NEXT-GENERATION JOURNALISTS THE FUTURE FOR A PROFESSION IN TRANSITION?

By Christopher Connell, Carnegie Reporter, vol. 5, no. 3, Fall 2009, pp. 2-10.

http://www.carnegie.org/reporter/pdf/19/19_01_News21.pdf

The author, an independent journalist, focuses on News21, a multi-million-dollar experiment by Carnegie Corporation of New York and the James S. and John L. Knight Foundation, to determine if a new crop of journalists can awaken interest in news where older and more experienced journalists have failed. Connell believes that to do this, they first need to study important issues, such as liberty and security, the role of religion in American life, the country's dramatically changing demographics, and then produce stories with all the multimedia tools that the digital age has to offer. Connell notes that this effort is taking place in a news environment in which entertainment dominates, and during recession that has seen the demise of several major newspapers and layoffs of reporters and editors.

09603

A BILL TO AMEND THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934 TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL BROADBAND POLICY, SAFEGUARD CONSUMER RIGHTS, SPUR INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION, AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES: INTERNET FREEDOM PRESERVATION ACT OF 2009.

By Introduced by Congressman Edward J. Markey, THOMAS, Library of Congress, July 31, 2009, 13 pages.

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h3458ih.txt.pdf

Latest Major Action: 7/31/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

09604

A BILL TO PROHIBIT THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FROM FURTHER REGULATING THE INTERNET: INTERNET FREEDOM ACT OF 2009.

By THOMAS, Library of Congress, Introduced by Senator John McCain. October 22, 2009, 2 pages.

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:s1836is.txt.pdf

Latest Major Action: 10/22/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

09605

CHINA HACKERS HIT MEDIA COMPANIES AND ACTIVISTS ONLINE

By Committee to Protect Journalists, January 13, 2010.

<http://cpj.org/2010/01/hackers-hit-media-companies-and-activists-online-f.php#more>

The Committee to Protect Journalists expressed concern after Google said that it had uncovered evidence of cyber attackers from China targeting its own and other companies' infrastructures, as well as individual Gmail accounts. The committee welcomed Google's statement that it was no longer willing to censor its Chinese search engine, Google.cn, in light of the discovery.

09606

CYBER CRIME: A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER: COMBATING THE FASTEST GROWING CYBER SECURITY THREAT

By Deloitte, January 2010, 16 pages.

http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-UnitedStates/Local%20Assets/Documents/AERS/us_aers_Deloitte%20Cyber%20Crime%20POV%20Jan252010.pdf

The rise of the sophisticated cyber criminal has become one of the fastest growing security threats to organizations and to citizens.

The CSO 2010 CyberSecurity Watch survey shows that cybercrime threats to organizations are increasing faster than they can combat them. The issue – attackers are becoming smarter and using more sophisticated malware, viruses and techniques that have outpaced traditional security models and many current signature-based detection techniques. And, it looks like this gap is only going to widen as cyber criminals build more complex and innovative threats.

Adding a layer of complexity to this issue, is the rise of social networking and online communications, online financial transactions, organized crime extending into cyber space, and the unfortunate motivation of economic hardships all over the world.

Improvements to address your cyber vulnerabilities can start with thinking about cybercrime differently. Comprehend the seriousness of threats to your data, processes and tools; shift from a security-based to more of a risk-based approach to cyber security, and finally, knock down the siloes across the enterprise. Share and combine security practices across your organization.

09607

FREEDOM ON THE NET: A GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF INTERNET AND DIGITAL MEDIA

By Freedom House, April 1, 2009, 126 pages.

http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/specialreports/NetFreedom2009/FreedomOnTheNet_Full_Report.pdf

http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/specialreports/NetFreedom2009/Libertad_en_la_Red_esp.pdf

As internet and mobile phone use explodes worldwide, governments are adopting new and multiple means for controlling these technologies that go far beyond technical filtering. Freedom on the Net provides a comprehensive look at these emerging tactics, raising concern over trends such as the "outsourcing of censorship" to private companies, the use of surveillance and the manipulation of online conversations by undercover agents. The study covers both repressive countries such as China and Iran and democratic ones such as India and the United Kingdom, finding some degree of internet censorship and control in all 15 nations studied.

09608

FOURTH MEETING OF THE INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (IGF) SHARM, EL SHEIKH, EGYPT, 15-18 NOVEMBER 2009

By Internet Governance Forum, November 2009.

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/content/article/314-2009-meeting>

<http://www.un.org/webcast/igf/ondemand.asp>

Archives of Webcast: <http://www.un.org/webcast/igf/ondemand.asp>

With more than 1800 participants from 112 countries the Sharm meeting had the biggest attendance so far. 96 governments were represented. 122 media representatives were accredited. Access to Internet had become much more important recently, given the billions of people using the Internet each day. Security, openness and privacy were interlinked and the key question was to find the right balance among access to knowledge, the freedom of expression, and intellectual property rights

09609

GARTNER OUTLINES KEY PREDICTIONS FOR IT ORGANIZATIONS AND USERS IN 2010 AND BEYOND

By Gartner news release, January 13, 2010

<http://www.gartner.com/it/page.jsp?id=1278413>

Including Facebook as dominant social networking integration hub, and mobile devices becoming more widely used than PCs for internet access.

Gartner, Inc. has highlighted the key predictions that herald long-term changes in approach for IT organizations and the people they serve for 2010 and beyond. Gartner's top predictions for 2010 showcase the trends and events that will change the nature of business today and beyond.

These predictions were selected from across Gartner's research areas as the most compelling and critical predictions. The trends and topics they address this year speak to the changing balance of power and focus in IT. Gartner analysts said last year's themes of shifting ownership and revenue flows continue, becoming more pronounced and more sharply focused. As the macro-economic environment adjusts to a new balance between supply, consumer demand and regulation, the focus of this year's top predictions has expanded to encompass shifts in the way that users interact with IT.

09610

HOW ONLINE LEARNING IS REVOLUTIONIZING K-12 EDUCATION AND BENEFITING STUDENTS

By Dan Lips. Heritage Foundation, January 12, 2010, 9 pages.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2356.pdf

Online or virtual learning has the potential to revolutionize K-12 education by expanding access to high quality teachers and providing instruction that is tailored to meet students' specific needs.

As many as 1 million children (roughly 2 percent of the K-12 student population) are participating in some form of online learning.

Emerging evidence suggests that online learning programs are effective. A meta-analysis of empirical studies published by the U.S. Department of Education found that students who took all or part of their class online performed better than those taking the same course through traditional face-to-face instruction.

State and federal policymakers should reform current education policies to facilitate the online education revolution to improve learning opportunities for students.

09611

IFLA/UNESCO INTERNET MANIFESTO GUIDELINES

By International Federation of Library Association, September 2006, 37 pages.

<http://archive.ifla.org/faife/policy/iflastat/Internet-ManifestoGuidelines.pdf>

The Internet Manifesto was created out of a perceived need for a document that brought the traditional library values of freedom of expression and freedom of access to information into the age of the Internet. It is a document that reaffirms the library profession's commitment to these values and their importance in all of the services that libraries can provide.

09612

INFORMATION SOCIETY STATISTICAL PROFILES 2009: ARAB STATES

By International Telecommunication Union (ITU), January 2010, 84 pages.

<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/conferences/rpm/2009/arb/documents/ICTProfileARB-en.pdf>

There is an ITU news release, "Arab States Define Key ICT Development Priorities", January 28, 2010, at: http://www.itu.int/newsroom/press_releases/2010/04.html

The Arab States¹ are part of an emerging and fast developing region, which is characterized by a wealth of natural resources and ongoing institutional reforms of both the public and private sectors (e.g. market liberalization). Undoubtedly, information and communication technologies (ICTs) are one of the key economic platforms for growth in the Arab States, and several developments have been taking place in this area over the past years.

For analytical purposes it is useful to distinguish between two groups of countries within the Arab States region. These include the countries that belong to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)² on the one hand, and the countries that are part of the broader Middle East region³ and North Africa⁴ on the other hand. In 2008, GCC countries, with the addition of Libya, had GDP per capita levels above US\$ 10,000, with Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait and Bahrain leading the way (chart 1.1). All the remaining countries are characterized as middle and/or lower-income economies, with GDP per capita levels of well below US\$ 10,000. These differences in countries' income levels have a direct impact on ICT services uptake.

09613

INTERNET FREE SPEECH

By Public Citizen, January 2010.

<http://www.citizen.org/litigation/briefs/IntFreeSpch/>

The rapid growth of the Internet and Internet technologies provides a renewed opportunity for citizens to have their voices heard on a wide variety of issues, including their government, the corporations that have an increasing role in their economic security, and the unions that represent their labor interests. The Internet affords individuals the ability to exchange ideas on these and other issues with an ever-growing world community. The site includes guide for bloggers and non-profit organizations, legal perils and legal rights of Internet speakers, and Internet free speech cases.

09614

INTERNET USE AMONG MIDLIFE AND OLDER ADULTS

An AARP Bulletin Poll, December 2009, 19 pages.

http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/general/bulletin_internet_09.pdf

Computer and Internet use continue to be in the domain of the young and affluent, with respondents between the ages of 50 and 64 and those with annual household incomes in excess of \$25,000 more likely than their older, less affluent counterparts to report using a computer anywhere, to be more likely to use the Internet for any reason they were asked about, and to access and use the Internet on at least a daily basis.

Notably, older respondents—those ages 65 and older—are much more likely to say they do not currently use a computer or the Internet and, among non-users, are much more likely to say they have no interest in doing so in the future. The less affluent respondents, however, are just beginning to use the Internet, which suggests that access and price may no longer be impediments for them.

09615

IN THE MATTERS OF PRESERVING THE OPEN INTERNET BROADBAND INDUSTRY PRACTICES: COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES (“ACLU”) AND THE TECHNOLOGY AND LIBERTY PROJECT OF THE ACLU

By Michael Macleod-Ball et al., American Civil Liberties Union, January 14, 2010, 12 pages.

http://www.aclu.org/files/assets/ACLU_Comments_on_FCC_Net_Neutrality.pdf

The ACLU's vision of an uncensored Internet was shared by the U.S. Supreme Court when it declared, in *Reno v. ACLU*, the Internet to be a free speech zone, deserving at least as much First Amendment protection as that afforded to books, newspapers and magazines. The government, the court said, can no more restrict a person's access to words or images on the Internet than it could be allowed to snatch a book out of a reader's hands in the library, or cover over a statue of a nude in a museum.

09616

REMARKS ON INTERNET FREEDOM

Address by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, January 21, 2010.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135519.htm>

See also <http://www.america.gov/internet-freedom.html>

09617

SOCIAL MEDIA & MOBILE INTERNET USE AMONG TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

By Pew Internet & American Life Project, February 3, 2010, 37 pages.

http://pewinternet.com/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_Social_Media_and_Young_Adults_Report.pdf

There is a summary at <http://pewinternet.com/Reports/2010/Social-Media-and-Young-Adults.aspx>

Overview: Two Pew Internet Project surveys of teens and adults reveal a decline in blogging among teens and young adults and a modest rise among adults 30 and older. Even as blogging declines among those under 30, wireless connectivity continues to rise in this age group, as does social network use. Teens ages 12-17 do not use Twitter in large numbers, though high school-aged girls show the greatest enthusiasm for the application.

About the Survey: This report from the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project is a part of a series of reports undertaken by the Pew Research Center that highlight the attitudes and behaviors of the Millennial generation, a cohort we define here as adults ages 18 to 29. The Pew Internet Project has conducted more than 100 surveys and written more than 200 reports on the topic of teen and adult internet use, all of which are freely available on our website: www.pewinternet.org. This report brings together recent findings about internet and social media use among young adults by situating it within comparable data for adolescents and adults older than 30. All the most current data on teens is drawn from a survey we conducted between June 26 and September 24, 2009 of 800 adolescents between ages 12 and 17. Most of the adult data are drawn from a survey we conducted between August 18 and September 14, 2009 of 2,253 adults (age 18 and over). At times, though, we draw from other adult surveys and we will note where that occurs.

09618

SOCIAL NETWORKING IN GOVERNMENT: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

By Human Capital Institute, January 2010, 5 pages.

http://www.hci.org/files/field_content_file/SNGovt_SummaryFINAL.pdf

Blogs, wikis, RSS feeds and social networking sites like Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn have provided creative ways to recruit, engage, connect and retain employees. They have also provided an opportunity to facilitate strategic knowledge sharing across organizations and government agencies. Most SN tools are Web-based and provide a variety of ways for users who share interests and/or activities to interact. Users can share best practices and build communities of practice. "Sixty-six (66) percent of government workplaces use some type of SN tool — and sixty-five (65) percent of those are using more than one tool," according to the report.

09619

TWITTER WORKING TO THWART CHINA, IRAN CENSORS

By Wired, Epicenter, January 27, 2010.

<http://www.wired.com/epicenter/2010/01/twitter-working-to-thwart-china-iran-censors/>

Last June Twitter was credited with helping anti-government protesters organize and hear and circulate unfiltered news from the outside world. The company's role in providing such a venue was seen as so critical that the U.S. State Department asked the company to postpone long-scheduled maintenance on its servers during the height of the protests.

Twitter's efforts to resist censorship come as Google threatens to leave China if it cannot provide uncensored search results, a face-off which has again drawn official United States interest; last week, in a speech widely interpreted as being directed at China, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said "Countries or individuals that engage in cyberattacks should face consequences and international condemnation."

Williams acknowledged that Twitter has a somewhat easier technical challenge than say a Google because it acts more as a carrier — like telephone service — than a single destination. Twitter.com at a target is irrelevant because of the multitude of third-party applications, and good old SMS, which deal directly with Twitter's (one hopes) well-protected server farm.

09620

Read More <http://www.wired.com/epicenter/2010/01/twitter-working-to-thwart-china-iran-censors/#ixzz0eqOrKNpE>

WHAT'S NEW AT THE OPENNET INITIATIVE?

By OpenNet Initiative, January 2010.

<http://opennet.net/>

The OpenNet Initiative finds that the Internet censorship and surveillance are growing global phenomena. Its mission is to identify and document Internet filtering and surveillance, and to promote and inform wider public dialogs about such practices. The website contains links to reports and research related to Internet freedom around the world.

TRANSLATED BOOKS



الإعلام أساس الصحافة من الجميع ومن أجل الجميع تأليف : دان جيلمور

We the Media Grassroots Journalism: by the people, for the People.

By Dan Gillmor

الدار الدولية للاستثمارات الثقافية
122 شارع عثمان بن عفان – الكلية الحربية - مصر الجديدة

رؤية مستقبلية فى ضوء الإنترنت والويب والمدونات

هذا الكتاب:

يلقى الضوء على مستقبل الصحافة الإلكترونية ويدعونا لتكون جزءا منها. فإن كنت تريد أن تفهم أهمية الكتابة على الويب و كتابة المدونات ، فعليك بقرأة هذا الكتاب. فهو يبين كيف يمكن لأى شخص أن ينتج تغطية إعلامية متميزة ، ويتم توزيعها عن طريق الإنترنت والمدونات، التى تؤثر فى مستقبل الإعلام ، والتى أحدثت تغييرا فى المبادئ الأساسية للصحافة.

**

RESOURCES FOR RESEARCH

- **BLOGS AT AMERICA.GOV : TALKING FAITH**

<http://blogs.america.gov/religion/>

- **e-books:**

<http://www.teleread.org/>

TeleRead – a blog on e-books and related topics

http://www.zorba.us/?page_id=818

Zorba's Guide to Free E-Books, January 2010

- **Internet Freedom. America.gov**

<http://www.america.gov/internet-freedom.html>

- **Middle East Peace Process — Print Resources, Official transcripts, IIP articles and U.S. government documents**

[http://www.america.gov/st/mena-](http://www.america.gov/st/mena-english/2009/October/20091021150351bpuh0.8959118.html#ixzz0dopSQggL)

[english/2009/October/20091021150351bpuh0.8959118.html#ixzz0dopSQggL](http://www.america.gov/st/mena-english/2009/October/20091021150351bpuh0.8959118.html#ixzz0dopSQggL)

- **The Power of a Mobile Phone - America.gov - Global penetration of mobile phones — especially in areas without Internet access — creates new ways for people to connect, make a difference, and motivate peers to take action.**

http://www.america.gov/mobile_phone.html

- **Selected Internet Resources: Government Resources for Science Images. Science Reference Services, Library of Congress, February 12, 2009**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/selected-internet/imagesources.html>

- **Harvard's Islamic Heritage Project is now online. Harvard University Library, December 18, 2009. The website of the Islamic Heritage Project**

<http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/ihp/>

- **Questia –the Online Library of Books and Journal**

<http://www.questia.com>



Information Resource Center

U.S. Embassy, 5 Tawfik Diab Street, Garden City, Cairo.

FIND IT ON THE WEB!

US EMBASSY, CAIRO

<http://egypt.usembassy.gov/>

Information on Ambassadorial activities, embassy programs, consular and visa information, press releases, webchats, latest US government statements, documents and reports, and more.

US EMBASSY INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER (IRC)

<http://egypt.usembassy.gov/irc/index.htm>

IRC brochure, Focus, access and membership policies, hours, great web pages, free online resources, and more by visiting the IRC Website.

IRC FACEBOOK PAGE

www.facebook.com/USEmbassyCairoIRC

Learn about programs, new books, news and events by visiting the IRC Face Book.

IRC FOCUS

<http://egypt.usembassy.gov/irc/focus.pdf>

Annotations of recent articles, websites and publications available online or through the IRC.

IRC ON-LINE CATALOG

<http://www.irc.org.eg/Site/Home.aspx>

Search for books, videos and other great resources from home.

AMERICA.GOV

<http://www.america.gov>

Find information about current U.S. foreign policy and about American life and culture. It is produced by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Information Programs.

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